

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 to 4, 8 to 10, 12 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) for obviousness over Agraharam in view of McCann. Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) for obviousness over Agraharam in view of McCann in view of Borella. Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) for obviousness over Agraharam in view of Jain.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C 112

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended so as to address the rejections under 35 U.S.C 112.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C 103(a)

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's conclusion on the last two lines of page 5 through page 6 line 5 of the McCann reference. Applicant advances that McCann teaches assigning flow identification information (e.g. an IP address) from a pool of those currently available. There is no step of comparison between a particular proposed flow identification information and flow identification information already in use.

Specifically, this comparison step is defined in present claim 1 as "means for determining whether the flow identification information of a quality of service session to be configured matches the flow identification information of an existing quality of service session." In claim 9, means for performing this step is required.

Turning again to McCann, the corresponding portions cited by the Examiner read as follows. Column 5 lines 54 to 65 reads:

The remote network 32 also has a remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40 that is a collection of non-local dynamic IP addresses for the remote network 32. A remote protocol server 38 is further provided to manage the remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40. The remote protocol server 38, preferably a remote DHCP server enables a network to dynamically assign non-local dynamic IP addresses to various communication devices automatically. Once the communication session has ended, the remote DHCP server reclaims the non-local dynamic IP address of the remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40 from the communication device 16.

Column 6 lines 7 to 10 further reads:

remote protocol server 38 of the remote network 32. The remote protocol server 38 determines whether a non-local dynamic IP address from the remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40 is able to be assigned.

This disclosure of McCann lacks the comparison step of claims 1 and 9 outlined above because no particular flow identification information (non-local IP address, in the case of McCann) is selected then compared to those available.

On the contrary, McCann simply teaches providing a non-local IP address – e.g., flow identification information - from those available (in the pool of those available), in response to an address request. To this point, on column 5, line 66 to column 6 line 10 of McCann reads:

To receive a non-local dynamic IP address from the remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40, preferably the local router 22 of the local network 20 transmits the address request 18 to the local visitor database device 28 of the local network 20. The local visitor database device 28 transmits the address request 18 to the remote visitor database device 36 of the remote network 32. The remote visitor database device 36 transmits the address request 18 to the remote protocol server 38 of the remote network 32. The remote protocol server 38 determines whether a non-local dynamic IP address from the remote pool of non-local dynamic IP addresses 40 is able to be assigned.

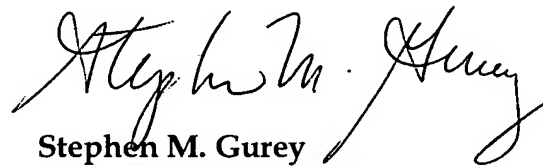
Furthermore, it follows that the Examiner is also incorrect in her page 6 lines 6 to 15. McCann does not teach a match between existing, i.e. in use, flow identification information, and one to be configured, because no such comparison is made in the McCann approach. Rather in the McCann approach a flow identification information is apparently simply assigned from those available.

It follows that claims 1 and 9 are patentable to the standard of 35 U.S.C 103 over Agraharam in view of McCann. These claims are also patentable over the other cited art. The dependent claims 2 to 8 and 10 to 14 are patentable not least on the basis that they depend on an allowable amended claim.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the Examiner's Office Action. Thus, in view of the hereinabove remarks, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of their patent application and its claims. To that end, if the Examiner feels that a conference might expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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